

DOCKET NO.: CHIR-0157

PATENT



REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 C.F.R. § 1.116

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Covacci, et al.

Confirmation No.: 4520

Serial No.: 09/360,685

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filing Date: July 26, 1999

Examiner: S. Devi

For: **HELICOBACTER PYLORI CAI ANTIGEN PROTEINS USEFUL FOR
VACCINES AND DIAGNOSTICS**

Amato
38/F
Linda
3/6/03

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO: EV 160093197 US
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231

Sir:

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REPLY AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

This is in response to the Final Official Action dated November 1, 2002, issued in connection with the above-identified application and constitutes a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. This response is accompanied by a petition for a one month extension of time. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following.

AMENDMENT

In the claims:

Please amend claims 45, 54, 56, 57, 59, 62, 63, 70, 75, 78, 80, and 81 to read as follows: